

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS

FOR SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN COUNTIES

OCTOBER 2003



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September Local Labor Scene

The September seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the **Janesville/Beloit Metropolitan Area** was 6.9 percent, one-tenth of a percentage point lower than the revised August estimate of seven percent, but three-tenths of a percentage point higher than the September 2002 estimate.

All six Southwest Counties experienced declining unadjusted unemployment rates in September, joining the 71 of Wisconsin's 72 counties that had lower unadjusted unemployment rates in September than in August.

As compared to last September, nonfarm employment has decreased by nine-tenths of a percentage point in Southwest Wisconsin, a net loss of 1,100 jobs over the year. A majority of that occurred in Rock County, most notably in the manufacturing industry. Statewide, nonfarm employment declined two-tenths of a percentage point over the last 12 months, a loss of 5,500 jobs.

Statewide Notes

Wisconsin's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was estimated to be 5.7 percent in September, two-tenths of a percentage point lower than August's estimate and two-tenths higher than the September 2002 estimate. Wisconsin's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in September dropped over the month half a percentage point to 4.9 percent.

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National Notes

The national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.1 percent in September, unchanged from August and four-tenths higher than the rate recorded for September 2002.

Labor Force Estimates (Seasonally Adjusted)			
	Janesville/Beloit MSA	Wisconsin (000s)	United States (000s)
<u>Current month: September 2003</u>			
Civilian Labor Force	79,200	3,104.9	146,545
Employment	73,800	2,927.6	137,573
Unemployment	5,400	177.3	8,973
Unemployment rate	6.9%	5.7%	6.1%
<u>Change from one month ago</u>			
Civilian Labor Force	-200	1.6	15
Employment	0	6.8	(52)
Unemployment	-200	-5.2	68
Unemployment rate	-0.1%	-0.2%	0.0%
<u>Change from one year ago</u>			
Civilian Labor Force	1,300	81.3	911
Employment	1,100	71.1	261
Unemployment	300	10.2	652
Unemployment rate	0.3%	0.2%	0.4%
<i>Note: All estimates are preliminary and based on place of residence.</i>			

Nationally, employers initiated 868 mass layoff actions in September 2003, according to data from the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Each action involved at least 50 persons from a single establishment, and the number of workers effected totaled

82,647.

With fewer layoffs in long distance freight trucking, temporary help services, and department stores compared with September 2002, the number of layoff events and the number of initial claims were down sharply, falling to their lowest levels for September since 1999. From January through September 2003, the total number of events, at 14,073, and the number of initial claims, at 1,399,510, were lower than the January-September period a year ago.

Southwestern Wisconsin Workforce Development Area

September 2003	Grant	Green	Iowa	Lafayette	Richland	Rock	Region	Non MSA's *	Wisconsin
Civilian Labor Force**	24,384	16,974	14,627	7,218	8,351	78,593	150,147	71,554	3,087,178
Employed	23,384	16,120	14,189	6,871	8,036	73,789	142,389	68,600	2,936,410
Unemployed	1,000	854	438	347	315	4,804	7,758	2,954	150,768
Unemployment rate(%)	4.1	5.0	3.0	4.8	3.8	6.1	5.2	4.1	4.9
Total Nonfarm (NFWS) ***	18,800	13,600	11,700	3,630	5,900	67,200	120,900	53,700	2,788,100
Total Private	14,300	11,900	10,300	2,600	4,800	58,700	102,600	43,900	2,392,100
Goods Producing	3,700	3,600	1,200	660	1,800	18,400	29,300	10,900	641,800
Service Producing	15,100	10,000	10,500	2,970	4,200	48,800	91,600	42,800	2,146,300
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	700	800	600	150	200	3,100	5,500	2,400	127,700
Manufacturing	3,000	2,800	600	510	1,600	15,300	23,800	8,500	514,100
Trade	2,800	2,800	6,200	680	1,100	12,900	26,300	13,400	436,400
Transportation & Utilities	500	300	300	190	100	2,500	4,000	1,500	317,900
Financial Activities	1,100	400	200	190	300	2,000	4,200	2,200	158,700
Education and Health Services	2,300	2,200	900	310	600	8,200	14,500	6,300	366,500
Leisure & Hospitality	1,800	1,400	1,100	280	500	5,900	11,000	5,100	248,400
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	2,100	1,200	400	300	400	8,800	13,200	4,400	434,600
Total Government	4,480	1,750	1,400	1,030	1,150	8,500	18,300	9,800	396,000
Federal	170	100	90	70	60	300	800	500	28,500
State	1,550	40	100	40	210	500	2,400	1,900	99,600
Local	2,770	1,610	1,210	920	880	7,700	15,100	7,400	267,900
Change from one month ago	August 2003								
Civilian Labor Force**	-280	-300	220	-140	-130	-1,300	-1,930	-600	-44,700
Employed	-70	-230	240	-90	-70	-900	-1,070	-200	-25,300
Unemployed	-200	-70	-20	-60	-60	-500	-860	-400	-19,400
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.8	-0.4	-0.2	-0.7	-0.6	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5
Total Nonfarm (NFWS)***	130	-80	320	10	10	-500	-100	400	-10,400
Percent change NFWS last month	0.7%	-0.6%	2.8%	0.2%	0.2%	-0.7%	-0.1%	0.7%	-0.4%
Total Private	-100	0	300	-30	-100	-1,000	-900	100	-29,000
Goods Producing	0	-100	0	-20	0	-700	-900	-200	-10,300
Service Producing	200	0	300	30	100	200	800	600	-100
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	-30	-40	-20	-10	-10	-100	-200	-100	-3,400
Manufacturing	-10	-50	-10	-10	-30	-600	-700	-100	-6,900
Trade	-20	80	400	-10	-20	-200	200	400	-5,600
Transportation & Utilities	40	10	10	0	30	0	100	100	-5,100
Financial Activities	-10	-10	0	0	-10	0	0	0	-500
Education and Health Services	-10	-10	-10	0	10	300	300	0	2,900
Leisure & Hospitality	-30	-60	-90	-20	-30	-400	-600	-200	-13,400
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	20	70	-10	10	0	0	100	100	-3,600
Total Government	180	-80	50	40	80	500	800	300	18,600
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100
State	30	0	0	0	60	100	200	100	6,700
Local	150	-80	60	50	20	400	600	200	12,000
Change from one year ago	September 2002								
Civilian Labor Force*	630	-790	410	90	70	1,300	1,700	400	79,000
Employed	670	-840	-20	150	70	1,000	1,500	500	66,600
Unemployed	-50	50	-40	-60	0	300	200	-100	12,400
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.3	0.5	-0.4	-0.9	0.0	0.2	0.1	-0.2	0.3
Total Nonfarm (NFWS)***	370	-950	240	120	10	-900	-1,100	-200	-5,500
Percent change NFWS last year	2.0%	-6.5%	2.1%	3.5%	0.2%	-1.3%	-0.9%	-0.4%	-0.2%
Total Private	400	-800	300	100	100	-700	-700	0	2,000
Goods Producing	0	-200	0	10	0	-600	-800	-200	-24,800
Service Producing	400	-800	300	110	100	-300	-300	0	19,300
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	10	80	-10	10	10	0	100	100	-7,900
Manufacturing	10	-260	-30	0	-50	-600	-900	-300	-16,800
Trade	-60	-370	220	30	10	600	400	-200	6,600
Transportation & Utilities	0	20	0	-10	0	-300	-300	0	3,200
Financial Activities	110	0	10	0	30	100	200	100	5,100
Education and Health Services	40	0	40	50	30	-300	-100	200	8,200
Leisure & Hospitality	190	120	70	20	10	-200	200	400	1,900
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	60	-360	-20	0	30	0	-300	-300	5,700
Total Government	0	-200	-30	20	-50	-200	-500	-300	-7,500
Federal	-10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	-800
State	90	0	10	10	20	0	100	100	1,000
Local	-80	-200	-30	10	-70	-200	-600	-400	-7,700

* Five counties, excluding Rock County ** Includes participants residing in area. *** Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers. NFWS data is benchmarked to 3/2002

Look for the most current Labor Market Information at: <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi/>

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